

Upper Midwest and more than 645,000 residents of our region visit Canada each year for business and tourism.

I must also be highlighted that during peace and war time, Canada has always been a vital ally. During the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Canadian people have shared their enormous sacrifices with our military, and our nation is grateful for their deep contributions to national and international security.

It is an honor to join all residents in Minnesota's 4th Congressional District in commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Consulate General in Minneapolis, and for the celebration of the many ties between Canada and Minnesota on this grand opening of the "Canadiana" exhibit at the Minnesota History Center in Saint Paul.

**FUNDING RELIEF TO MULTIEMPLOYER
DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS**

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, Section 211(a) of the bill before us gives funding relief to multiemployer defined benefit plans, by giving them more time to make up for the severe investment losses that they suffered in 2008 and the first quarter of 2009.

One of the options would give multiemployer plans that meet a solvency test permission to amortize the net investment losses incurred either or both of the first 2 plan years ending after August 31, 2008 over 30 years. The other option—which can be elected independent of the plans' decisions on the first choice—would allow multiemployer plans to smooth those losses up to 10 years, in determining the actuarial value of their assets. The full market value of the investment loss is intended to be calculated as the difference between the actual market value of the assets and the expected market value of those assets, calculated using the assumed rate of return used by the actuary for valuation purposes, at the end of the relevant plan year, with adjustments for contributions and disbursements. In addition, it is also intended that multiemployer plans are to be permitted to reflect the full amount of those losses in their funding calculations, including those portions of the losses that will be recognized over a period of up to 10 years in the actuarial value of assets.

The bill limits the circumstances under which plans that elect either or both of the funding relief approaches may only be amended to increase benefits. It is intended that those restrictions apply for the first 2 plan years after the plan year in which relief is first reflected in the funding standard account. For instance, if the multiemployer plan chooses extended amortization for the losses incurred in the 2008 plan year, that would first be reflected in the funding standard account for the 2009 plan year, and the benefit-increase restrictions would apply for the 2010 and 2011 plan years; if extended amortization (or 10-year smoothing) is also used for losses incurred in 2009, the restrictions would apply for the 2011 and 2012 plan years. I note that a special effective date rule applies the restric-

tions only to benefit increases that become effective after the date of enactment.

The funding relief approaches are also intended to be available to plans that use actuarial funding methods that do not identify experience gains and losses as separate items. Treasury and the IRS is expected to allow all multiemployer plans to use the relief, either as an overlay to a funding method that otherwise does not produce experience gains and losses or by giving blanket permission to multiemployer plans to switch to a method that does produce them, effective for all relevant plan years, and without regard to procedural restrictions in relevant Treasury and IRS guidance (such as Revenue Procedure 2001-40) on the number of method changes a plan can adopt within a given period of years or the deadline for electing the change for a given plan year.

It is also intended that the funding relief approaches be made available in the case of a plan for which the deadline for determining funded status has already passed, and for a plan for which the deadline is approaching so quickly that plan sponsors and actuaries will have little time to take the relief into account in making these determinations. It is intended that Treasury and the IRS will provide a reasonable period for plan actuaries, if directed to do so by plan trustees, to withdraw their zone certifications for the first plan year that started after September 30, 2009, and substitute revised certifications if the result is different when the relief is taken into account. Treasury and the IRS is also expected to treat plan actuaries as not violating the deadlines for pending status certifications, even if they are completed within a reasonable period after the statutory due date, so that they can take account of changes due to the relief.

Finally, because time is of the essence, it is expected that the Secretary of the Treasury and IRS will issue guidance under this legislation promptly after the bill's enactment and that such guidance will provide that an action taken in good faith based on a reasonable interpretation of the legislation (including these statements) until the guidance is issued will be deemed to comply with the legislative provisions.

HONORING ROBERT L. TADE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to one of our nation's most dedicated veterans, Robert L. Tade, Commander, American Legion El Cajon Post 303, which I have the honor of representing.

In the early 90s, Rob joined the American Legion and quickly became involved in El Cajon Post 303, serving as Post Commander for the past 3 years. Having been a dedicated service member of the Armed Forces for over 40 years, Rob understands the importance of advocating patriotism and honor to our nation's youth and devoting time to fellow service veterans. Since he joined the American Legion, Rob has displayed an endless enthusiasm in ensuring the success of his post, having almost tripled the membership and instituting more than two dozen programs to support the local community.

On June 26, 2010, Commander Tade was bestowed with the California Department of the American Legion's highest honor: Legionnaire of the Year for 2010. He was selected out of 117,000 dedicated members who serve our worthy veterans and youth groups today. Rob is truly deserving of such an award and is a prime example of the patriotism that makes our country the best in the world.

Madam Speaker, let us all applaud the devoted service that Mr. Robert Tade has provided to El Cajon and the rest of San Diego. I urge all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the many achievements of this great public servant.

**ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BELEN HARVEY HOUSE**

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a notable constituent of New Mexico's First Congressional District, Ms. Maurine McMillan, who is the director of the Harvey House Museum in Belen, New Mexico.

The Harvey House Museum was founded in 1910 and served as an important gathering space for scores of railroad patrons during the first half of the 20th century. During that time, the Santa Fe line and its accompanying railroad industry defined development in central New Mexico but offered little in the way of comfort to travelers.

Fred Harvey's company brought elegant restaurants, hotel services and amenities to the traveling public throughout the Southwest and established a reputation for cleanliness and friendliness. At its peak, Mr. Harvey's company operated 84 unique Harvey Houses and was the first "chain" business in the world, with an average of one house every 100 miles of the Santa Fe rail line, from Kansas to California.

Many of those Harvey Houses have since been abandoned, demolished or converted to office or storage space for the railroad, but the Harvey House Museum in Belen has been preserved. It is now listed on the National Register and visitors are able to tour its many exhibits. Many community events are also held at the Harvey House Museum, earning the building high regard as a true "place of the heart" in New Mexico.

I am proud to honor Ms. Maurine McMillan of New Mexico's First Congressional District for her continued leadership in preserving the rich value of the Harvey House Museum of Belen to New Mexicans, on its 100th anniversary, this month of June, 2010.

**HONORING OFFICER KELLY
O'NEAL**

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Kelly O'Neal's retirement from the Pleasanton, California Police Department, and to honor his thirty-four years of exemplary service in law enforcement.